



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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FEB 19 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (INSTALLATIONS,  
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (ENERGY,  
INSTALLATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
(INSTALLATIONS, ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY)  
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

SUBJECT: Strategic Plan for Amphibian and Reptile Conservation and Management on Department of Defense Lands

The Department of Defense's core responsibility is to defend our Nation and care for our Service personnel and their families. Consistent with this objective, the American public also expects us to protect and conserve the land, sea, and airspace we require for military operations. *The Strategic Plan for Amphibian and Reptile Conservation and Management on Department of Defense Lands* document is intended to help natural resource managers better address the conservation and protection of amphibians and reptiles and their habitats; to help Commanders comply with the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act; and to help both Commanders and resource managers achieve their mission objectives by providing relevant technical guidance on priorities such as:

- implementing proactive, habitat-based management strategies that maintain healthy landscapes and training lands in ways that sustain and enable DoD's mission activities;
- promoting proven conservation partnerships to help leverage financial and human resources to achieve common goals, such as preventing species from becoming listed as threatened or endangered; and
- minimizing environmental encroachment, which continues to impact the military's ability to conduct operations in once-remote areas.

This document provides a framework for our natural resources managers to use as they update, revise, and implement Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans to ensure that we are supporting Commanders by meeting environmental requirements and mission readiness. In updating this Strategic Plan, we worked closely with many of your staff, I appreciate the time and effort they invested, and wholeheartedly support this endeavor. I ask that you join me in its advocacy and distribute this document as widely as possible.

My lead for amphibian and reptile conservation and management activities is Mr. L. Peter Boice, at (571) 372-6905 or by email at [l.p.boice.civ@mail.mil](mailto:l.p.boice.civ@mail.mil).

John Conger

Performing the Duties of the Assistant Secretary of Defense  
(Energy, Installations and Environment)

Attachment:  
As stated